

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

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TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Wendy Brown, Policy Analyst

Office of Planning and Development

SUBJECT: Emergency Regulations--12 VAC 35-45-10 et seq. and 12 VAC 35-105-10 et seq.

Addition of Provisions for Licensing Providers of Brain Injury Services

DATE: January 6, 2006

This is to advise you that the above-referenced emergency regulations became effective on December 30, 2005. These regulations implement Chapter 725 of the 2005 Virginia Acts of Assembly and amend the two referenced regulations to establish provisions for licensing providers of brain injury services.

According to Virginia's Administrative Process Act, emergency regulations may remain effective for a maximum of twelve months. Therefore, the agency has also initiated the process for adopting regulations on a permanent basis by submitting a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for publication in the <u>Virginia Register</u>. This NOIRA will be published on January 23, 2006, and requests your comments to assist the agency to develop the permanent regulations.

Please submit your comments in writing no later than February 24, 2006 to Leslie Anderson, Director of the Office of Licensing, by mail at the above address, e-mail leslie.anderson@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or via fax (804) 692-0066. You may obtain a copy of the emergency regulations on the Department's website at www.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by contacting Wendy Brown, via e-mail at wendy.brown@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2252.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this regulatory process.

pc: Leslie Anderson